NEW YEAR FULL OF LAST OIL YEAR ONE

Wage Contest.

Barring unforeseen contingencies during which railroad traffic, wages, freight rates, charges for conducting transportation and expenditures States than did 1921.

States than did 1921.

Despite deferment of more than \$1,000,000,000 worth of maintenance, the physical condition of the railroads generally is good enough to permit of operation for another half year if necessary on reduced expenditures for upkeep. A few exceptional properties are known to be in better condition physically than ever before in their history.

Although the losses in traffic incident to the general business depression have been heavy and the low level to which tennage fell in November may be which tonnage fell in November may be expected to continue throughout the early part of 1922, cheapening labor costs in transportation and other industries and the prospect for a revival of business warrant the supposition that the gross and the net earnings of the railroads will be better than those of 1921, particularly in the second half-year.

Yet the transportation situation is not without its uncertainties. It re-mains to be seen, for example, how stout will be the resistance of labor to further liquidation of its wages. Arrival of that dispute at its climax before the United States Railroad Labor Board about March 31, 1922, the date on which the wage agreement of the coal miners will expire, might set the stage for a walkout in two of the nation's basic industries.

Rates may prove another source of Rates may prove another source of insecurity. Will demands for lower rates follow every sign of improvement in rallroad earning power or will the cry for decreases subside with a better ment in general business? Certain it is that some rate readjustments will result from the fact that slack business has permitted agents of industry and commerce to give extraordinary attention to such small items of operating costs as transportation.

The pressure to cut rates is greatest when the carriers most need revenue because of their failure to pile up surplus in times of pienty. That the railroads are thus without means to tide themselves over lean periods is due mainly to Governmental regulation and its delays.

In broader aspect it is increasingly apparent to the unbiased student of railway affairs in this country that there will be no return to anything like the great profits of bygone days unless a distinct public reaction sets in against strict Governmental supervision. At present few important steps affecting the users, employees or owners of rail-

themselves over lean periods is dusting the maintained. Should Mexico and the maintained should be maintained. Should Mexico and the maintained of the maintained of the maintained of the maintained and the maintained and the maintained and the maintained and interest probably then a distinct public reaction sets in against active of correct few invocatant steps affecting the users employees or owners of rail-incomplete the under management of the properties of the work of the correct and the period immediately following brought Pederal management of the property of the maintained properties of the United States Railroad Labor of the United States Railroad Labor of the United States Railroad Labor divided on the United States Railroad Labor divided of the United States Railroad Labor divided on the United States Railroad Labor divided of the United States Railroad Labor divided the Commission and the Commission of the United States Railroa

Merger Plan Not in Effect Yet.

The drawing up of the Interstate Commerce Commission's plan for consolidation of the country's railroads into nineteen systems has not developed anything of importance. Its discussion scarcely can result in a final plan until the transportation act of 1920 chall have been given fair trial under normal conditions and until the earning power of the several railroad properties shall have been proven. Before these things are accomplished most railroad executives will remain reluctant to have the financial structure of their properties disturbed through mergers.

Designed to relieve the drain on railroad working capital the Townsend bill, permitting the funding of debts owed to the Government for capital expenditures made during Federal control, did not pass the Congress in time to be of benefit, and so has been scrapped.

The turn of the year finds the railroads preparing to effect an average reduction of 16% per cent. In the rates on shipments of hay, grain and grain products in the trans-Mississippi territory and voluntary reductions of 13 per cent. on many other farm and orchard products in practically all sections of the country.

Further rate revisions will be made if, as and when the United States Railroad Labor Board grains new wage reductions. The machinery necessary to bring before the board applications for wage cuts averaging 16 per cent., calculated to pare down the yearly payroll between \$300,000,000 and \$400,000,000,000, has been set in motion. All wage disputes resulting from the approaching conferences with employees probably will have been certified to the United States Railroad Labor Board by the end of February.

The Interstate Commerce Commission's inquiry into the question of rates

States Railroad Labor Board by the end of February.

The Interstate Commerce Commission's inquiry into the question of rates, scheduled to be resumed on January 9, may be expected to last until March 15 at least. It is the hope of carriers that at its close the commission will find that no further rate reductions should be made without corresponding cuts in operating expenses, the chief of which is the wages of labor.

a year of sharp readjustment which came with a suddenness characteristic of the oil business. Alfor upkeep of roadway and equipment though continuing its prosperity long underwent substantial reductions, there after most other industries had begun is ample reason to predict that 1922 to suffer from worldwide depression, the holds greater promise for the steam of industry finally was affected. Prices transportation industry in the United States than did 1921. or crude oil within a few months dropped to less than a third of their former level and prices of the refined products showed a corresponding decline. That violent reaction in prices spelled ruin for many operators and naturally discouraged new development work in the oil fields, whereas for several years previous every incentive had been given to the producer and wildcatter to increase production, the sharpness of the decline made possible an early recovery in prices. Consequently before the close of the year there was a recovery of 100 per cent. from the low figures.

The beginning of the new year finds uncertainty in the trade as to the probable course of prices in 1922, and the price question is looked on as being closely linked with success or adversity in the industry. Domestic production and imports of oil are running at a record rate at the present time. As consumption is not as large as it has been, there seems to be room for doubt as to a continuance of the present price level. It seems reasonable to look for consumption at least equal to the 1921 mark, and the consensus of opinion is that it should sistently weak with intermittent rallies which lasted just long enough to cause renewed hope

tion at least equal to the 1921 mark, and the consensus of opinion is that it should increase. The principal consideration, therefore, is whether or not the supply of oil will increase or decline. Reduced prices in the last year resulted in a large curtailment of drilling activity and caused a falling off in production in many older fields, in which continued drilling was necessary to maintain output, but near the close of 1921 a new field showed a sensational development and is production and activity, which more than offsets the decline in production in other districts.

Coincident with alarming reports regarding the future of Mexican fields, production and shipments from that country have risen to new high records. tion at least equal to the 1921 mark, and

Coincident with alarming reports regarding the future of Mexican fields, production and shipments from that country have risen to new high records. It is a fact, however, that a large part of the former producing area of Mexico has been exhausted and that salt water has taken the place of oil. The result is that most production is from an extremely small area, being drawn on by the few companies controlling the acreage apparently with the idea of getting the remaining oil above ground as rapidly as possible. It is not believed, even by the most optimistic, that the present rate of production in Mexico can long be maintained. Should Mexico and Mexia decline simultaneously, which does not seem unlikely, at a time when consumption is showing some increase.

NO BULL MARKET

Strength Is Chief Characteristic of Market at End of Year.

The first half of August and because stocks moved down with greater ease than they advanced most fraders' operations were for the decline and met with a fair degree of success. In the third week in August the general list looked weakest and many industrials, speculative point of view as was last year or rather the first eight months of the year. After fourteen months of seemingly endless liquidation and bear market, which began in November, 1919, the financial community believed last January that it had a right to expect at reasonably good market for the next in September, and when late in the month of two months. That feeling was so the second of the year in command for the first half of August and because who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better which as just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better United States in the interest of better who has just completed a tour of the United States in the interest of better United States in the Interest of September and who medical, she states.

Here are for the real states HE petroleum industry had in 1921

a year of sharp readjustment

BEW years in Wall Street have been such a disappointment from the such as strong in some cases as to call forth references to the bull market of 1921 which was going to develop. Quite the contrary was true, however, because during its first eight months and throughout that period stocks were con-

> The specific reasons for that situation were numberless, but in the main all of them were attributable to one outstanding general cause, namely, the slough of depression, into which all industry and business had fallen after the boom days which followed the ending of the war. Passed dividends, wretched earnings statements, high money rates, big and numerous failures, curtailed production. labor troubles, political unsettlement



Write to-day for particulars about

Surplus Floating Equipment

Consisting of-Passenger Boats Deck Barge Passenger Steamers Covered Barge Coal Boats Coal Scows Wooden Life Boats Steam Launch Yacht Sub-Chaser Whale-Boat

Concrete Passenger Steamers Mine Planter Derrick Lighters Steam Derrick Barge Deck Scows Ash Scow Launches Motor Boats River Harbor Boat Motor Dory Mine Yawl Dingy Boats

To be sold at minimum prices by sealed bids closing JANUARY 12th, 1922, 10:00 A. M. Address

Surplus Property Control Officer 1st Ave. and 58th Street, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

WAR DEPARTMENT SURPLUS

Store Hours: 9 to 5:30

FOURTEENTH STREET Founded 1827

Sale of



PHONOGRAPHS For This Week Only

All of the models on sale are the favorite cabinet style that makes an attractive piece of furniture. They have double spring motors, and play all records. Every Romance machine is guaranteed.

These reductions represent genuine savings, for the prices of the present time have been cut for this week only.

Model No. 3—were \$65.00	45.00
Model No. 4—were \$79.00	55.00
Model No. 5—were \$100.00	89.00
Model No. 6—were \$110.00	97.00

We carry a complete assortment of Sonora and Brunswick Phonographs

60.00 to 550.00

Convenient terms arranged for the purchase of large machines.

We buy and sell for cash except in selling phonographs.

Oneida Community Silverware Par Plate The Ardsley Pattern Half Price



Pickle Forks-reg. price

Five-o'Clock Teaspoons-reg. price \$1.50—12 doz....75

Soup Spoons—reg. price \$3.00—½ doz......1.50

Oneida Community Par Plate is guaranteed for ten years, and the Ardsley is an unusually lovely pattern. Because it has been discontinued we are selling it all for so much less than it is worth. If you need any silverware, buy this worth-while kind at great savingsnow.

Quantities limited.

Tablespoons—reg. price \$3.00—½ doz..... Dinner Forks—reg. price \$3.00—1/2 dozen......1.50 Dessert Forks—reg. price \$2.80—1/2 dozen....... 1.40 Dessert Spoons — 1/2 dozen reg. price \$2.80. 1.4 Sugar Spoons-reg. price .50 Butter Knives-reg. price .50 .25 Ind. Salad Forks-reg. price 1.93 Butter Spreaders—reg. price \$3.40—½ dozen...... 1.70 Baby Spoons-reg. price . .25 Berry Spoons-reg, price \$1.75-each Cold Meat Forks-reg. price Gravy Ladles—reg. price \$1.25—each.... .63 Dinner Knives—reg. price \$3.50—½ dozen...... 1.75 Dessert Knives—reg. price \$3.40—1/2 dozen ... 1.70 Sugar Tongs—reg. price \$1.20—each.... .60 Cream Ladles-reg. price \$1,00-each .50

Teaspoons—reg. price \$1.50 See Pages 8, 20 and 22 for Other Hearn Advertising

PROMISE TO ROADS

OF READJUSTMENT

APPEARED IN 1921

Stock to start rumors about the company represented by that stock. Rumor mongers became so bold that they began to whisper alarming questions and sasertions about various big banks. June was, decidedly, a very trying month in Will Street. During the first week of July an increased volume of buying wiped our month. With two exceptions were the Mexican and South American oil issues, which decided abruptly on unfavorable tariff proposals. There may be seven them as a haven. There they cared for over two hundred famine victimes and assertions about assertions about assertions about assertions about warding big banks. June was, decidedly, a very trying month in Will Street. During the first week of July an increased volume of buying wiped our month. With two exceptions were the Mexican and South American oil issues, which declined abruptly on unfavorable tariff proposals. There they cared for over two hundred famine victimes are also for the months was marked by extreme duliness and Professional traders were in command P

in the stranglehold of that terrible famine," Mrs. Frame states, "students of Yenching (Pekin) College gave Maeterlinck's "The Bluebird," in Chinese, through which they raised \$1.500 for the sufferers. Then a small group were ex-

ADJUSTO SHOE LACE CO., In. 525 W. 23d Street, New York





SALE OF FURS

A SPECIAL PURCHASE AT 1/2 THE MAKER'S REGULAR PRICES

Mole Coats and Wraps

- 2 Self trimmed Coats, 36 inches, 1 Self trimmed Coat, 45 inches,
- 3 Self trimmed Coats, 45 inches, 3 Squirrel trimmed Wraps, 45 inches, \$279
- 3 Fox or self trimmed Wraps, 45

(dyed muskrat) 5 Self trimmed Coats, 36 inches, 2 Skunk trimmed Coats, 40 inches,

1 Skunk trimmed Wrap, 45 inches, 7 Squirrel or Kolinsky trimmed Wraps, 45 inches, 2 Squirrel or Kolinsky trimmed

Hudson Seal Coats

\$349 Wraps, 45 inches, Alaska Seal Coats and Wraps 2 Untrimmed, 40 inches,



1 Untrimmed Wrap, 45 inches, Kolinsky Capes and Wraps 1 Plain Cape, 45 inches, 1 Plain Cape, 45 inches, 1 Plain Wrap, 45 inches,

1 Untrimmed, 45 inches, 1 Untrimmed Wrap, 45 inches,

Persian Lamb Coats and Wraps 1 Skunk Trimmed Wrap, 36 1 Wrap with Kolinsky collar, 45 inches, 1 Mink Trimmed Wrap, 45 \$449

inches. Natural Mink Coats and Wraps Trimmed with mink tails,

Tipped Mink Coat, 45 inches, \$679 Wrap, 45 inches, Wraps, 45 inches, 1 Extra Dark Eastern Mink Wrap, 45 inches, Extra Dark Eastern Mink

Djed Muskrat)

\$679

\$189

American Broadtail Coats and Wraps

Wrap, 45 inches.

4 Sport Coats, 32 inches. Natural Mole, Blended Squirrel or Viatka Squirrel trimmed, \$149 II Wraps, 45 inches. Trimmed with Skunk, taupe Fox, Viatka Squirrel and self fur,

Sheared Lamb

Ermine Wrap 45 inches long, (American)

Taupe Caracul Coat 36 inches long. Trimmed with Viatka Squirrel,

FUR NECKWEAR

10 Squirrel Scarfs, natural and blended, double fur or lined. \$8.74 to \$69.75 5 Hudson Seal Scarfs (dyed muskrat) \$34.75 to \$69.75

5 Mole Scarfs, Stoles and Capes, lined, \$34.75 to \$89.75 2 Kolinsky Coatees, \$324 to \$389

3 Kolinsky Lined Scarfs, \$59.75 to \$129 1 Mink Stole, 15 skins, I Silver Fox, \$189

1 Silver Fox, 2 Baum Marten Animal Scarfs, tipped, 829.75 4 Stone Martens, 1 skin, \$17.74

2 Russian Sables, 1 skin, tipped, \$69.75 1 Russian Sable, 1 skin, natural, \$129 25 Brown Wolf Scarfs, double fur, \$15.74 25 Brown Wolf Scarfs, satin lined, \$21.74 80 American Fox Scarfs, double and lined. Brown, taupe or black,

large skins, 9 Gray Squirrel Chokers, large, \$7.74 6 Natural Raccoon Animal Scarfs,

lined. 23 Skunk Scaris, cape collars, lined animal scaris and stoles. Fine quality, \$17.74 to \$89.75

In addition, all our regular stock of Fur Coats and small pieces has been radically reduced.

